

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0009] with the following rewritten paragraph:

a [0009] The above-mentioned method of the present invention can be ~~carried out~~ carried out with simplified operations and under a high productivity, without the problems of the prior art. Moreover, the tire produced by the method of the present invention includes, on each side surface area, an annular laminated body made of a ribbon embedding short fibers that are arranged with a desired orientation. Thus, when the short fibers in the annular laminated body are oriented in the circumferential direction of the tire, it is readily possible to realize a highly improved lateral rigidity and an excellent steering stability performance without deteriorating the riding comfort.

Please replace paragraph [0011] with the following rewritten paragraph:

a2 [0011] The annular laminated body may be preformed by supplying the ribbon from an extruder to a rotating carrier, so that the preformed annular laminated body is applied along, and adhered to the carcass ply and/or a side surface of a bead filler rubber. The ~~performing-preforming~~ of the annular laminated body is advantageously preformed during the period in which a green tire is being vulcanized, in order to minimize the loss time.

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following rewritten paragraph:

a3 [0015] The present invention will be described hereinafter with reference to some preferred embodiments shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a sectional view showing a tire produced by the method according to the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a sectional view showing a green tire corresponding to the product tire of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a sectional view showing a tire produced by the method according to a modified embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a sectional view showing a green tire corresponding to the product tire of FIG. 3;

FIG. 5 is a sectional view showing an annular laminated body that may be used in accordance with the present invention;

A³ FIGS. 6 to 8 are sectional views of green tires showing various arrangements of the annular laminated body;

FIG. 9 is a perspective view showing one example of positive displacement type extruder that may be used for ~~performing~~ preforming the annular laminated body in the method according to the present invention;

FIG. 10 is a side view showing another example of positive displacement type extruder that may be used for forming the annular laminated body, *in situ*, in the method according to the present invention; and

FIG. 11 is a side view showing a part of FIG. 10 in enlarged scale.

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following rewritten paragraph:

A⁴ [0022] With reference to FIG. 5 showing the cross-section as can be seen in a radial plane of the green tire 21, the reinforcing layer 30 in the green tire 21 is in the form of an annular laminated body that is formed by spirally winding and laminating a ribbon 30R of unvulcanized rubber embedding short fibers therein. The annular laminated body 30 is applied to the position of the green tire 21 corresponding to the side surface areas of the tire 1, between the outer rubber formed of the rubber chafers 11 and the side wall portion 12, on one hand, and the inner liner rubber 8, on the other hand. Preferably, the ribbon 30R has a thin gauge within a range of 0.3 mm to 1.2 mm, and a narrow width within a range of 5 mm to 20 mm. The ribbon 30R can be highly efficiently and precisely extruded from a positive displacement type extruder or a screw extruder, which can be operated under an automatic

a4 control, and the annular laminated body 30 may be either preformed or formed, *in situ*, ~~open~~
upon formation of the green tire 21 in a simple manner and with a high productivity.

Please replace paragraph [0037] with the following rewritten paragraph:

a5 [0037] As described above, the method according to the present invention can be
~~carried out~~ carried out with simplified operations and under a high productivity, without the
problems of the prior art. Moreover, the tire 1 produced by the method according to the
present invention includes an annular laminated body made of a ribbon embedding short
fibers that are arranged with a desired orientation. When, in particular, the short fibers in the
annular laminated body are oriented in the circumferential direction of the tire, it is readily
possible to realize a highly improved lateral rigidity and an excellent steering stability
performance without deteriorating the riding comfort.